



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/438,689	11/12/1999	Christopher M. Ward	1875.095000C.	9756
7590	01/07/2004		EXAMINER	
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX			MIS, DAVID C	
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.				
SUITE 600			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3934			2817	
DATE MAILED: 01/07/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
--------------------	-------------	-----------------------	---------------------

[REDACTED] EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

24

DATE MAILED:

**Response to Rule 312  
Communication**

The petition filed \_\_\_\_\_ under 37 CFR 1.312(b) is granted. The paper has been forwarded to the examiner for consideration on the merits.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director,  
Patent Examining Group \_\_\_\_\_

The amendment filed 11/3/3 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

entered.  
 entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention (Order 3311).  
 disapproved. See explanation below.  
 entered in part. See explanation below.

Attached = PTO-1449

David C. Mis  
Primary Examiner